

Background Strips and Color Sticks

Sewing steps to add Background and Color Sticks are the same throughout each addition. The only thing that changes is the width of the strips.

Approximate strip lengths are listed, however don't worry if yours are not the same, blocks can be trimmed square once all are complete.

Background Strips are used to add space around the Base Block. With the background strips in place, color sticks double cross over and beyond the Base Block, each beginning and ending in a different place.

Background Strips are many different widths, however all are cut from the same light background. They are added to the **outer edges** of the Base Block in Rounds, or sets of two each; first to a long side and then to a short side. You can begin on whichever long side you like, working in a counter or clockwise order, *and* you can switch which long side you begin on for each new block.

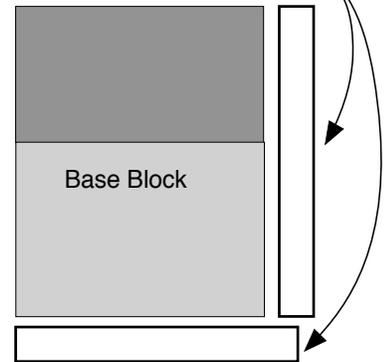
To add the Background Strips, find the correct width listed below; then using that size strip, trim it to match the length of the side you are adding it to. Sew in place and press the seam toward the strip. Repeat to add the next strip, making sure to check the new width of the block **AND** strip as the sizes change. Measure, cut, add strip.

Color Sticks are added to the Base Block *after* a set of background strips have been added. The Base Block is randomly cut into two sections and a color stick is sewn in between the two pieces. Color sticks are added in Rounds or sets of two each; horizontally then vertically, *it is okay if you switch the order*.

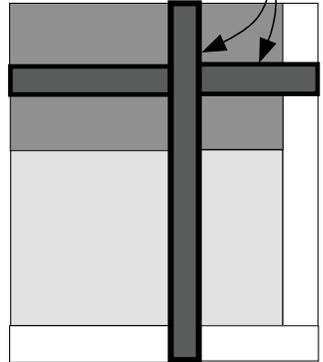
To add the Color Sticks, find the correct width listed below; then using that size color stick, trim it to match the length of the inside edge you are adding it to. Sew in place. Pin the second side of the block to the color stick; open it up before sewing to make sure all seam allowances are aligned then sew in place. Press seams toward the color stick.

Repeat the step above this time cutting the block into two vertical sections. Use the same width as the first stick, but choose a new color. Add the same as above. Cut, measure, add strip.

Add background strips in sets of 2 each, 1 on a long side and 1 on a short side.

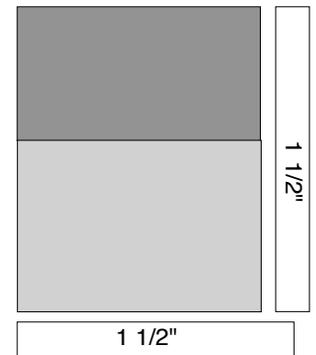


Add color sticks in sets of 2 each, double crossing the base block.



Round One, Background Strips

- Add a 1 1/2" strip to one long edge approximately 10" long
- Add a 1 1/2" strip to one short edge, approximately 9" long



Round One, 1 1/2" Color Sticks

- Horizontally slice the Base Block, add a 1 1/2" color stick approximately 9" long.
- Vertically slice the Base Block, add a 1 1/2" color stick approximately 11 1/2" long.

